

Whereas Philippines military forces have supported over the years many United Nations peacekeeping operations worldwide;

Whereas the United States ranks as one of the Philippines' top trading partners, with 11 percent of the Philippines' imports coming from the United States and 15 percent of exports from the Philippines delivered to the United States in 2010;

Whereas total United States foreign direct investment in the Philippines was approximately \$7,000,000,000 at the end of 2009;

Whereas the Philippines is one of four countries that has been invited to participate in the new Partnership for Growth Initiative, which promotes broad-based economic growth in emerging markets;

Whereas many Americans and Filipinos have participated in people-to-people programs such as the Peace Corps, the International Visitor Leadership Programs, the Aquino Fellowship, Eisenhower Fellowships, and the Fulbright Scholar Program;

Whereas an estimated 4,000,000 people living in the United States are of Filipino ancestry, over 300,000 United States citizens live in the Philippines, and an estimated 600,000 United States citizens travel to the Philippines each year;

Whereas the U.S.-Philippines Society was recently established to broaden and expand interaction between and understanding of the United States and the Philippines in the areas of security, trade, investments, tourism, the environment, history, education, and culture;

Whereas the alliance between the United States and the Philippines is founded on core values that aim to promote and preserve democracy, freedom, peace, and justice, and is fortified by the two nations' partnerships in defending these values;

Whereas the Government of the Philippines seeks to improve governance, strengthen the rule of law, and further develop accountable, democratic institutions that can better safeguard human rights, secure justice, and promote equitable economic development;

Whereas His Excellency Benigno S. Aquino III, President of the Republic of the Philippines, is scheduled to visit the United States in June 2012; and

Whereas Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta met with their Philippine counterparts in Washington, D.C. on April 30, 2012, and reaffirmed that the United States and the Philippines are longstanding allies, that the United States Government is fully committed to honoring mutual obligations with the Philippines, and that the alliance continues to serve as a pillar of the Philippines-United States relationship and a source of stability in the region; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) the Senate—

(A) celebrates the 60th Anniversary of the United States-Philippines Mutual Defense Treaty and the vitality of the overall bilateral relationship;

(B) confirms the alliance's centrality and enduring value as one of the key pillars of peace, stability, and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region and as a key tool in address-

ing the emerging security environment in the region; and

(C) encourages both countries to continue high-level consultations; and

(2) it is the sense of the Senate that—

(A) the United States Government should use the U.S.-Philippines Bilateral Security Dialogue and the Mutual Defense Board and Security Engagement Board to promote greater alliance cooperation and enhance bilateral security ties, including support for Philippine defense modernization, for the rotational presence of United States Armed Forces in the Philippines and for increased humanitarian and disaster relief preparedness activities;

(B) the United States Government should redouble efforts to expand and deepen the economic relationship with the Government of the Philippines toward achieving broad-based economic development in that country, including by working on new bilateral initiatives that support the efforts of the Government of the Philippines to reform its economy and enhance its competitiveness, and through trade-capacity building;

(C) the Government of the Philippines should continue its efforts to strengthen its democratic institutions to fight corruption, curtail politically motivated violence and extrajudicial killings, expand economic opportunity, and tackle internal security challenges;

(D) after close consultation with the Government of the Philippines, the United States Government should designate an appropriate United States entity to be responsible for making necessary arrangements to ensure ongoing maintenance of Clark Veterans Cemetery in the Philippines; and

(E) the United States Government should continue efforts to assist the Government of the Philippines in the areas of maritime security, maritime domain awareness, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, and related communications infrastructure to enable enhanced information-sharing and overall military professionalization.

AUTHORIZING THE USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Con. Res. 45, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The assistant bill clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 45) authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for an event to award the Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the Montford Point Marines.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be

laid on the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 45) was agreed to, as follows:

S. CON. RES. 45

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),

SECTION 1. USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL FOR EVENT TO AWARD THE CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.

(a) AUTHORIZATION.—Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center is authorized to be used for an event on June 27, 2012, to award the Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the Montford Point Marines.

(b) PREPARATIONS.—Physical preparations for the conduct of the event described in subsection (a) shall be carried out in accordance with such conditions as may be prescribed by the Architect of the Capitol.

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6, 2012

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, June 6, 2012; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the majority leader be recognized; that following the remarks of the majority leader and those of the Republican leader, the next hour be equally divided and controlled between the two leaders, with the Republicans controlling the first half and the majority controlling the final half.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. DURBIN. It is the majority leader's intention to resume consideration of S. 3240, the farm bill. We hope we can begin consideration of the bill during tomorrow's session.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it adjourn under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:04 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, June 6, 2012, at 9:30 a.m.